APPLICATION

of

Leo Berbee

for

UNITED STATES LETTERS PATENT

on

VARIETY OF DAYLILY PLANT NAMED 'BERSTEL'

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Attorneys
FULWIDER PATTON LEE & UTECHT, LLP
200 Oceangate, Suite 1550
Long Beach, CA 90802

VARIETY OF DAYLILY PLANT NAMED 'BERSTEL'

BACKGROUND OF THE NEW PLANT

The present invention relates to a new and distinct cultivar of Daylily, botanically known as Daylily *hemerocallis hybrid* and further known by the varietal name 'BERSTEL'. This new variety is also sold under the trade name STELLA SUPREME (Breeder's Ref. No. D94-17). The new variety was discovered in a seedling selection program by the inventor, Leo Berbee, in Lisse, The Netherlands in 1994. The parental cultivar are unknown. The cultivar was isolated by the inventor, Leo Berbee, at Lisse, the Netherlands, by seedling selection primarily on the basis of ornamental appeal, particularly flower color.

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Following selection of the seedling the cultivar was propagated vegetatively from clump divisions at Lisse, The Netherlands in 1994. Continued observation of the vegetative divisions resulting from asexual reproduction of clump divisions taken at Lisse, The Netherlands having confirmed that the distinguishing features of this new cultivar came true, remain stable and are retained through successive propagation.

SUMMARY OF THE INVENTION

Plants of the cultivar 'BERSTEL' have not been observed under all possible environmental and cultural conditions. The phenotype may vary somewhat with variations in environment such as temperature, light intensity, length of day, irrigation

amount and frequency, and/or fertilizer rate without, however, any variance in genotype.

The following traits have been repeatedly observed and are determined to be among the unique characteristics of 'BERSTEL'. These characteristics distinguish 'BERSTEL' as a new and distinct cultivar:

- 1. Distinctive lemon-chiffon yellow flower color; and
- 2. Long blooming season.

Plants of the new Daylily can be compared to plants of the Daylily cultivar 'Stella d'Oro' (unpatented). Compared to plants of the cultivar 'Stella d'Oro', the new Daylily has a distinctive generally triangular shaped flower with a lemon-chiffon yellow in contrast to the rounded golden-yellow flower of the comparator. The new Daylily also has a longer blooming season than the comparator.

BRIEF DESCRIPTION OF THE DRAWINGS

The invention is depicted in the accompanying colored photographs in which:

- FIG. 1 shows a close up of the flower;
 - FIG. 2 shows the plant as a clump growing in a garden environment; and

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FIG. 3 is a side-by-side comparison of the new Daylily on the left with the comparator 'Stella d'Oro'.

The photographs depict the overall appearance of the new Daylily, showing the colors as true as it is reasonably possible to obtain in colored reproductions of this type. Colors in the photographs may differ slightly from the color values cited in the Detailed Botanical Description which more accurately describe the actual colors of the new Daylily.

DETAILED BOTANICAL DESCRIPTION OF THE NEW PLANT

The following detailed description sets forth characteristics of the new cultivar. The data which defines each characteristic was collected from asexual reproductions grown in an open greenhouse with irrigation provided by drip feeding in a hydroponic system, and carried out by the breeder at Clyde, Victoria, Australia, approximately 38 degrees, 9 minutes South latitude at 16m elevation. The plant histories of 12 plants were taken on liners, potted into 150mm pots of a pine bark potting mix, sitting on tray channels, in approximately September 2003.

In the following table of comparative features, color references are made to the Royal Horticultural Society of London Colour Chart, 1995 Edition. The color values were determined on plant material grown in an open greenhouse at Clyde, Victoria, Australia.

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	'BERSTEL'	'Stella d'Oro'
The Plant		
Plant Growth Rate	Moderately vigorous	Moderately vigorous
Length of Flowering Season	Remontant	
Time of Flowering Season	Early Spring to Late Summer	
Density	Thick	
Growth Type	Clumping	
Height	Low	
Width	Medium	
Leaf		
Color-Main	146B	137B
Characteristics	Basal, linear, tapered, falcate	
Mean Length (mm)	59.75	45.6
Mean Width (mm)	14.69	12.09
Apex	Pointed	
Margin	Flat	
Texture	Smooth	
Shape	Flattened Convex	
Stem	Sessile	
Scapes		
Branching arrangement	Taller than foliage, forked but sparsely branched	,
Mean stem diameter (mm) (just below inflorescence)	7.3	7.87

INFLORESCENCE		
Length of flowering period	Remontant	
Number of florets	10-20	
Mean floret length (mm)	74.93	71.57
Lastingness of bloom	1 day	
Fragrance of bloom	Strong, citrus fragrance	
Diameter	Small	
Mean Length (mm)	84.5	69.5
Form front	Triangular	
Form profile	Recurved	
Color type	Self	
Color Midzone outside	4C	16A-16B
Color Margin outside	4C	21C
Color Midzone inside	5B	21B
Color Margin inside	5C	21C
Flower bud		
Shape	Long Ovate	
Mean Length (mm) (at time of sepal separation)	53	52
Mean width (mm) (at time of sepal separation)	14	12
Color	150B	145A
Petal		
Number	6	
Mean length (mm) (as at separation)	57.35	51.08
Mean width (mm)	29.14	20.015
Arrangement	3 inner, 3 outer arranged in opposition.	

Pedicel		
type	Bracteate, borne in a close raceme	
Color	137C	137D
Prickles	Absent	
Mean Length (mm)	2.73	1.69
Sepals		
Number	Nil	
Basal Spot		
Presence	Absent	
Stamen		
Filament color	17C	17A
Mean filament length (mm)	7	6
Anther color	10D	14D
Mean anther length (mm) (base to bend)	41.5	35.5
Pistils		
Mean style length (mm)	59.4	51.2
Style color	10C	16B
Seed vessel		
Fruit Presence	3 valved, few seeded, locule capsule	

GENERAL CHARACTERISTICS

'BERSTEL' is primarily distinguished from plants of the Daylily cultivar 'Stella d'Oro' and other hybrid cultivars of the Daylily genus by its uniquely distinctive

5 lemon-chiffon yellow colored flowers giving off a strong citrus fragrance and projecting from scapes reaching about 20 inches (508mm). 'BERSTEL' is an everblooming plant beginning its blooming season in late spring/early summer and continuing until first frost with a consistent array of flowers throughout the season.

The foliage includes long flattened leaves of a medium green color lighter than the comparator.